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Guide
to Capri

SECOND EDITION



NAPOLI
PRINTED BY FEDERICO SORRENTINO
Via Foria 97
1899

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**Service à la grande Carte, at any hour
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LUNCHEON — Price Lire 2,50—consists of Soup, Fish, Joint, Vegetables, Cheese, Fruit and half bottle of wine.

DINNER — Price Lire 4,00—consists of Hors d'oeuvre, Soup, Fish, Entrée, Joint Vegetables, Salad, Sweet, Fruit and one bottle of wine.

Rendez-vous for foreigners - Cook's coupons accepted.

N.B. After a personal experience of four years, the writer can say that, this is the only Restaurant in Naples, known to him, where a foreigner is charged the same price as an Italian.

Wines excellent and moderate.

Orders for Wines, by the case or barrel are solicited.

PREFACE

The first edition (3000 copies) of this Guide, which was published in March 1898, is now completely exhausted. I have received letters asking for Guides, and further information about Capri, from Yokohama, Interlachen, Montreux, Dresden, Montreal (Canada), Amoy (China), Bombay, New York, Florence, Sidney (Australia) and Rome, besides a perfect avalanche of letters from numerous places in England. Under these circumstances, I feel that my endeavour to bring the attractions of Capri, before the attention of those who will appreciate her charms, has not been wholly fruitless. I am therefore issuing a second edition of the "Guide", which though similar in form and appearance, to the previous one, contains a considerable amount of additional information. As in the first edition, I gratefully and freely acknowledge, the help I have received from the large experience and intimate knowledge of Capri possessed by Drs. Cerio and Cuomo.

As all Advertisers in the Guide, are personally known to the writer, strangers will find that they receive special consideration, by mentioning that they have been recommended by this Guide.

Copies of this Guide will be sent to anybody who will address.

Oct. 24 1899.

HAROLD. E. TROWER.
CASA CASTIGLIONE — CAPRI
ITALY.



P A R T I.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF CAPRI.

The island of Capri, which forms such a conspicuous object from Naples, lies at a distance of 17 miles South of that city, and 3 miles from the Punta di Campanella, the nearest part of the mainland. It's extreme length is 4 $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles; it is 2 miles broad between the Blue and Green Grottos, and the circumference is 9 miles. The ancient name of the island was Caprea, which is variously derived from the Greek Καρπος a wild boar, or Caprea, which is the Latin for a wild goat. Capri is divided into two parts, by the sheer perpendicular cliffs of Monte Solaro (1920 feet), which cross the island, almost in it's centre from N. to S.

The geological formation is limestone. About three quarters of the island is cultivated, the soil though of no great depth, is admirably adapted to the vine and in a lesser degree to the orange and lemon. Olives too are cultivated in considerable quantities, but do not grow to any great size; the tendency at present is to substitute the vine for the olive.

Those who visit Capri need not have the slightest fear of earthquakes, or any inconvenience in the event of an eruption of Vesuvius. Though comparatively near the volcanic center, there is no record of volcanic disturbances at Capri. On the other hand it is the best point in the Bay of Naples, for observing the wonderful cloud and sky effects, which are constantly being produced round the cone of Vesuvius.

The population is about 6000, of whom 3600 reside in Capri, and 2300 in Anacapri. The town of Capri, where are the principal hotels and shops, is about 500 feet above sea level; while Anacapri is another 500 feet above the sea. It is interesting to observe, that the people of Anacapri differ widely, both in their physical appearance, and also in their natures, from those of Capri. This difference will strike the most casual observer, who will probably attribute the difference to the greater admixture of Saracenic blood among the people of Anacapri.

Historical Survey.

For two thousand years Capri has been sought out by the most fastidious in taste; and from the days of Augustus and Tiberius Cæsar, to the days of queen Joan of Naples (whose palace is the present residence of Dr. Cerio), Capri has been recognised as « the pearl of the Mediterranean ». Of the primitive inhabitants little is known; although excavations conducted by Dr. Cerio at the Fern Grotto, have brought to light a most valuable collection of prehistoric weapons, pottery and utensils (now in the Museum of the University of Naples), and also some stag horns, the discovery of which proves that Capri was inhabited since the neolithic period in prehistoric ages. It is certain that Capri was settled by Greeks, some six centuries B. C. Capri is however principally

associated with the name of **Tiberius Caesar**, who spent the last ten years of his life on the island, and built twelve palaces. The remains of these palaces are of extreme interest to the antiquarian. Excavations were first made by Hadrawa, and since then by others, and many, valuable finds have been made.

For several centuries Capri was constantly harassed by the Saracens, and the people led a hazardous and precarious existence. In the 18th century the island passed to the Bourbons. From 1806 to 1808, it was held by the British.

The Governor at that time was Colonel, afterwards Sir Hudson Lowe, the future gaoler of Napoleon Bonaparte. Colonel Lowe seems to have been less successful, in upholding the honor of his country in Capri, than in restraining the liberty of Napoleon. He occupied, while Governor, the large house now known as Palazzo Canale or Palazzo Inglese.

Capri for winter visitors.

The Island of Capri is situated in the Bay of Naples, and is distant only 17 miles from Naples itself, and about 10 miles from Sorrento. It is easily reached by sea, direct from England to Naples, or from New-York to Naples, by the luxurious steamers of the P. & O., Orient, North German Lloyd or British India C.^o the fare being 10-12 pounds first-class from England and 100 to 125 dollars from New-York.

Or of course those who prefer a land journey, can reach Naples from London in about fifty hours.

Climate.

The statistics of the temperature of Capri show that, both in summer and winter, the **extremes** noted in Naples and in the towns of the adjoining mainland, are very seldom

reached. The air is remarkably pure and dry, except during the Scirocco (S. E. wind).

The entire island is mountainous, sloping on the one side to the North , and on the other to the South, with hardly any flat, and no marshy or malarious ground. These conditions prevent the stagnation of water; consequently the inhabitants of Capri enjoy perfect immunity from intermittent fevers, and all diseases arising from the accumulation of stagnant water. The purity of the air , the absence of dust, the mildness of the climate, the abundance of sunlight, and constant movement of the atmosphere combine to make all cases of infectious diseases extremely rare. When however, a stray case of an infectious character has unfortunately been imported from the mainland, it has never spread and assumed an epidemic character.

The much dreaded scourge, typhoid fever, was in former times occasionally imported by visitors , who had spent a considerable time in Naples, and had drunk the water of that city , or eaten oysters kept in the filthy sewer water of St. Lucia. But for the last 13 years Naples has been supplied with the Serino water, which is as pure as any in Europe, and cases of typhoid are now rare.

Drinking water.

A most important question in any foreign place is the water supply. There are several springs in Capri, and almost every house has a cistern to collect the rain-water from the roofs and terraces. The spring water however is hard and heavy , containing a large quantity of dissolved lime. The purity of the cistern water depends , entirely on the care taken to keep the roofs and cisterns clean. As a rule, the majority of the people fully realise the importance of

keeping their cisterns free from foreign matter. The fact of the absence of infectious diseases, proves that the water may be used with perfect safety.

Drainage.

A few years ago the whole inhabited part of the Commune of Capri was drained. All the drainage is now conducted to the sea on the Southern side of the island.

Death-rate.

If we examine the statistics of the last ten years, we find that the lowest per 1,000 has been 13 1/2, while the highest death rate has been 17. These facts speak for themselves, and establish the fact that Capri ranks among those places which have the **lowest death rate** in Europe. The mortality among infants is notably low, scrofulous diseases being almost unknown.

Naples — Capri steamers.

A steamer of the North German Lloyd Company runs from Naples to Capri during the season Feb. 1st to May 15th, leaving St. Lucia every day at 8.30 (see adv. p....)

The Steamers of the Società Napolitana di Navigazione leave Naples twice every day for Capri and also leave Capri twice a day for Naples (see Adv. p....)

Capri — Hotels.

There is one large, most excellent, and in every sense **first-rate** Hotel, called the **Quisisana**, and kept by the late Syndic of Capri, cav. **Federico Serena**. Beneath

Mr. **Serena's** hospitable roof, many crowned heads and other transient celebrities have satisfactorily slumbered. It faces South, and has accomodation for about 120 people; the cooking is excellent, the rooms most comfortably furnished, and the garden which surrounds it beautifully kept. Mr. **Serena** speaks English very well; he also represents the spirit of progress in Capri, and as Syndic has done much to improve the sanitary condition of the town.

Hotel and Pension Faraglione faces full South, with extensive views of the Faraglioni Rocks and town of Capri. It is much resorted to by English and American families, who express themselves well satisfied, with the attention of the proprietor Mr. **Nicola Ferraro**. The dining-room and reading-room are decorated by artists of different nationalities. The Hotel is next to the Capri Lawn Tennis Club Terms moderate.

There are also several Hotels near the sea, only a few minutes walk from where the steamers land their passengers.

The **Hotel Bristol**, Proprietor **Filippo Federico**, is only four minutes walk from the steamer landing. This hotel faces full South with splendid views of Vesuvius, and the Bay of Naples, it is surrounded by a garden full of flowers and a luxuriant lemon-grove. The landlord makes his own wine for the use of his guests, for which he has obtained a medal at Castellammare. The best water in Capri (which is stored in the original Tiberian cisterns) is supplied at this hotel. Luncheon is always ready on the arrival of the steamer. The pension is 6-7 francs a day including wine, and the departing guest can discuss his bill in English, French, German or Italian.

The **Hotel Grotte Bleue**, manager and proprietor **P. Mazzola**, is only two or three minutes walk from the steamer landing, and is the oldest established Hotel at the Grande Marina. It boasts a garden and beautiful terraces,

which command grand views over the Gulf of Naples and Vesuvius. The dining-room has recently been entirely redecorated in the Pompeian style. The Hotel **Grotte Bleue** is patronised by the British Consul at Naples, and many other yacht owners. Luncheon will be always found ready, on the arrival of the mid-day boat.

The **Hotel Continental**, of which the manager is **Mr. G. Maldacena**, is only two minutes from the steamer landing. It has beautiful terraces, which literally overhang the sea, and a bright garden, and is the only Hotel, which has a private stairway to the sea. The proprietor, having spent many years in England, speaks English fluently. Excellent luncheons are always ready, on the arrival of the steamers. **The Continental** is the only first-class Hotel near the sea, authorised by Thomas Cook & Son, to receive their first-class tourist's coupons.

The **Hotel Schweizerhof**, which is a Dependance of the Hotel Quisisana, is situated 5 minutes from the steamer landing. The house is comfortable, and the position unsurpassed. Broad Terraces extend on three sides of the Hotel. Attached to the Hotel is a Restaurant, where meals can be obtained at fixed prices, or à la carte. Luncheons at 2.50 Lire are always ready, on the arrival of the Naples Steamer. The Manager **Mr. Sangiorgio**, is most attentive, and personally caters for the comfort of his guests. Pension rates, from 6 Lire a day, including wine and attendance.

Stanford's Pension & Furnished Rooms.

Stanford's furnished sunny rooms, with, or without pension, at moderate prices. Plain English cooking; ample terraces facing South—Good water, and best sanitary arrangements. **Palazzo Ferraro** 3rd floor over the Café Hiddigeigei.

Photographic and Art Studio.

The only photographic Studio in Capri, which belongs to **A. Alberino**, will be found in the gardens of the Hotel Quisisana. The proprietor takes artistic photographs, and develops negatives for amateurs very moderately. In the Saloon, is a large and artistic selection of photographs of Capri scenery, and peasants in the costume of the island, paintings in oils and watercolors, pottery, and bromide copies from the Museum at Naples. **Alberino** has studied his art in the principal establishments of Germany, and talks German.

Anacapri Hotel.

The **Hotel** and **Restaurant Paradiso** is excellently situated in the best part of Anacapri, it faces full South, and is surrounded by a large old-fashioned garden, and vine-clad « Pergola », under which in hot weather meals can be served. A great advantage to artists is, that Studios are provided for their use. Luncheons (2-3 francs) are always ready on the arrival of the steamer. Complete pension 5-6 francs a day. The proprietor **Mr. Nicola Farace**, has recently made large additions to his house, to meet its growing popularity. From the Hotel terraces, charming views can be obtained over the Bay of Naples and Vesuvius.

Two Admirable Villas

Villa Carrle, and **Villa Moresca**, occupy one of the healthiest and most sunny positions in Capri, at the beginning of the Tragara road. They face full South, and are

immediately opposite to, and overlook the Quisisana Gardens. Both villas are furnished with elegance, and fitted up with the most improved sanitary arrangements. The water is absolutely pure, being pass'd through filters before use, and is pumped to each floor. The rooms are large and airy, and have wide windows. These villas are surrounded by a large garden, and connected by a noble « pergola », which affords superb views over the Gulf of Salerno; and the Faraglioni Rocks.

The proprietors reserve to themselves the right, to refuse to rent to persons in bad health, their object being to preserve the high sanitary reputation of their property.

For all particulars apply to the **Musco d'arte**, (opposite Hotel Quisisana).

Doctors.

Capri is peculiarly well provided with « Medicos ». **Dr. J. Cerio** is an Italian, and has resided on the island, and practised among foreignes for over 30 years, he speaks English perfectly, and besides being a most skillful practitioner, is a perfect mine of general information, and is the final Court of Appeal in all matters connected with the history, archeology, flora and climatic condicions of Capri. **Dr. Cerio** is also the Sanitary Official appointed for the island by the Government.

Dr. Vincenzo Cuomo, an Italian Doctor of great talent, speaks English, German and French. He resides in his own house at Anacapri, which occupies one of the best positions on the island, about half way between Cafè Bitter and the Piazza. His residence being too large for his own use, the Doctor will let a complete set of apartments, to a suitable tenant. **Dr. Cuomo** has a large practice, not only among the Italians, but among the foreign visitors and re-

sidents. He comes down to Capri every day, and can be found at the Hotel Quisisana, or Pagano's from 10 a. m. till 1 p. m. Hours of consultation at his house at Anacapri, from 2,30 till 4 p. m. **Dr. Cuomo** is the author of « L'Isola di Capri », an excellent and most erudite production, to which I am indebted for the climatic statistics in the special chapter on Climate.

Dr. Donald Coles was formerly Resident Surgeon and Physician at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and at the Children's Hospital Gt. Ormond St., and was also Ophthalmic House Surgeon at the former. Dr. **Coles**, who, on account of illness, sold his London suburban practice (which he had held for eleven years), has now quite recovered his health, and is practising in Capri, where his medical services are much appreciated.

Pharmacy.

Should the visitor require to have a prescription put up, he may feel assured that at the « **Quisisana Pharmacy** », owned and managed by **Carlo Ferraro**, the greatest care will be exercised, and the freshest drugs used. The « Quisisana Pharmacy » is most conveniently situated, being directly opposite Pagano's Hotel, and adjacent to the Hotel Quisisana. He can also buy toilet articles of all sorts, and all the best known mineral waters, and foreign patent medicines.

Legal affairs.

Visitors to Capri who have need of solid assistance, and impartial advice, in either civil or commercial matters, can

apply to the advocate **Cav. F. Margiotti**, who resides in Capri. He speaks English and French well, and his legal aid is most efficient, especially in drawing up deeds of purchase and exchange, leases, notarial matters, and questions requiring defence before the judicial tribunals of Capri, or the Province of Naples.

Capri as a Health Resort.

The climate of Capri being mild, yet charged with ozone, and invigorating, is admirably adapted for those suffering from chronic diseases of the respiratory and digestive organs; for convalescents from prolonged and obstinate diseases, such as malaria or jungle fever, scrofula, and diabetes; in these cases a perfect cure, or decided improvement, may be expected, from the simple influence of the climate, combined with suitable diet; **pulmonary Diseases**, either for persons with a strong predisposition inherited, or acquired, or persons in the latent or initial stage of consumption. Those however, who are afflicted with the rapid form of the disease, accompanied by high fever at night, and frequent blood spitting, must avoid Capri, as long experience has proved that cases of this character will go from bad to worse. Another class of persons who will benefit by a sojourn in Capri, more or less prolonged, are those suffering from nervous diseases or nervous exhaustion.

Capri Restaurants and Cafès.

Those who want to see Capri artist life, in its gayest and most careless guise, must wend their way to **Bussetti's**; here they will be greeted by the clink of glasses and the wooing strain of the mandoline. There are many families

who come to Capri for economy, or do not care for the bother of servants and house-keeping; these can get excellent meals at « **Busetti's** » for 5-6 Lire a day. Bedrooms, including service and lights, 1 to 1.50 Lire a night. The Padrone has also a capital cellar of wine; and, as he buys direct from the growers, he can afford to sell a bottle of good sound wine for 60 c.; (but in barrels of 44 litres the same wine can be bought for 40 c. a litre). Meals can also be sent out to private houses by the week or month at reasonable prices.

Morgano's Café is a favorite resort in the season; under its name of the « **Hiddigeigel** » it is known from one end of Germany to the other. After the Hotel dinners are over, you might imagine yourself in the Fatherland, so dense are the clouds of smoke, so enormous the absorption of Beer and so Teutonic the tones that greet the ear.

English Church.

From November to May there are services in the small church, which is under the superintendence of the S. P. G.

The present chaplain is the Rev. Proby. L. Cautley.

Early Celebration 8 a. m.

Morning service 10.30 a. m.

Evening service 3 p. m.

On the road to the Marina will be observed, the entrance to the Non-Roman Catholic Cemetery, which is always kept bright with flowers; it is open every day from 2 p. m. till sunset.

Character of the Natives.

As the climate makes so much difference, and is such an important factor, in the enjoyment of life, so also I think does the nature of those among whom we live and are

brought into daily contact, such as servants, tradespeople, boatmen carriage drivers and the like. Too much cannot be said in favour of the Capri natives, especially the more unsophisticated; they are full of friendly feeling and kindly thoughts. Should any cause of disagreement arise, it is soon forgotten and no malice is borne.

As you pass through the Piazza or along the little streets, everyone has a friendly greeting ; the men raise their hats most courteously, and the girls give you a sweet smile and a friendly good wish , « A pleasant walk », « A good bath », « Much amusement », « or (if near meal-time) », « A good appetite ». On your birth-day or name-day your rooms will be made gay with numberless bunches of flowers , or your palate tempted with baskets of sweet green figs , purple grapes, or melting peaches , which peep from beneath the appropriate shade of their own fresh leaves.

Crime is unheard of in this quiet island, and there is no stabbing or shooting ; any difference of opinion that may arise, is settled by competitive volleys of personal abuse. The eye is never shocked by the sight of drunken men ; and at night it is quite safe to leave the doors and windows open, for no one will enter your house. The people are kindly, obliging and courteous, especially those who have not lost their unsophisticated simplicity by contact with foreigners. The traveller will be little troubled by beggars, who are such an intolerable nuisance at Naples and the surrounding towns. Should he lose any jewelry or valuables, he is sure to recover them by asking the aid of the Parish Priest.

Capri as a Centre for Excursions.

Naples can be reached three times a day, and from thence, a choice of excellent steamers takes the traveller to Leghorn, Genoa , Marseilles and Gibraltar , to Palermo , Messina and

other Sicilian ports; Tunis, Tangiers, Malta, Greece, Constantinople, Alexandria, Port Said and all points East of the Red Sea. It may be mentioned, that Naples is a port of call for the following lines of first class steamers, P. and O., North German Lloyd, Orient, British India, Florio Rubbattino, and Hungarian Adriatic C.^o. From Capri itself, trips can be made in the day to Amalfi, Salerno, Paestum, Cava, Sorrento, Pozzuoli, Baiae and Ischia. The Manzi C.^o, run steamers to Ischia (see Adv. p.). In the season, the North German Lloyd steamer makes excursions to Amalfi and Ischia.

Blue Grotto.

Thousands of visitors come to Capri every year, only to see the Blue Grotto. The best time of day to see it in perfection, is about midday and the later in the summer the better. June, July, and August are the best months, as then the sky is a more vivid blue. The easiest way to visit the Blue Grotto is to call there on the morning steamer, which leaves Naples at 9 a. m. By those who don't mind a couple of hours in a small boat, and are good sailors, it will be found very enjoyable to hire a row-boat at the Marina (see Tariff p.).

The Blue Grotto is first described by Capaccio in his « History of Naples » published in 1607. No mention is made of it again till 1826, when it was re-discovered by a Capre fisherman named Riccio, who entered it in a barrel cut in half, there being at that time no boat on the island, small enough to make the entrance.

For this discovery, Riccio was granted a pension by the King of Naples, and the privilege of wearing a uniform and dagger. In the same year (1826) Kopisch, a German, was taken into the Blue Grotto by Riccio and wrote an account of his adventure, which may be seen at Pagano's Hotel.

The length of the Grotto is 163, width 86 feet, height 45 feet and depth of water 60 feet.

As your boatman propels you swiftly beneath the towering cliffs, you would pass unnoticed, a tiny hole in the rock, were it not that he pauses for a few moments, to transfer you to a fragile skiff, then bidding you lie flat in the bottom, and watching the surge of the sea, with vigorous strokes of his oar, and well-timed grasp of the rocky side, he shoots his light boat into the mystic cavern, and tells you to rise and look around.

Emerging as you do, from the bright sunshine, for a moment you are almost dazed, with the strange weird light, but as your eyes become accustomed to it, you find yourself in a vast grotto, nearly 200 feet long; above you towers the cathedral-like roof, each glistening stalactite, and lightly poised pinnacle, being tinged, nay, bathed in cerulean blue, such a blue that would make the sapphire seem pale and lifeless, a blue that shifts, and scintillates on the cathedral dome as the waters rise and fall.

Excursions and Resources of Capri itself.

It is said of Capri that there are 365 different walks, one for each day in the year. Though I am not willing to subscribe to this opinion literally, the number and variety of walks is really remarkable, considering the limited area of the island.

There are certainly enough excursions to amuse the visitor for ten days or a fortnight; and with something fresh to see every day. Of course there is the world-famed Blue Grotto to be seen, and the tour of the island by water, when the other Grottos, (the Red, White, and the Green) are visited, and the stupendous height of the cliffs most fully rea-

lised. Then there is the ascent of Monte Solaro, the highest point in the island, (1920 feet) which is well worth the climb, for the superb panorama it affords ; the climb to Barbarossa, (1600 feet) which rewards us with a hardly less beautiful view ; the drive to Anacapri and Caprile (an adjoining hamlet), with a stroll through the picturesque side lanes, and a lovely walk of 20 minutes to Migliara. Another day will certainly have to be devoted to a walk to the Light-house.

No conscientious visitor should omit a pilgrimage to Tiberio, where are extensive remains of the Villa Jovis of Tiberius Caesar (the best preserved of his palaces), an ancient Roman Light-house, and splendid views over the Gulf of Salerno and the Bay of Naples.

Another interesting day may be spent in visiting the « Arco Naturale », a curious natural formation of rock, approached by a beautiful path and the Cave of Mitromania, where excavations have disclosed the fact that, in the days of Augustus, it was used as a Temple by the Sun-worshippers.

Walks in Capri.

GROTTO MITROMANIA AND ARCO NATURALE.

Time from Piazza 1 1/2 hrs. for either.

Arco Naturale. Leave Piazza by Via Tiberio, keep straight up hill past Hotel Royal, at 4 cross-roads (above Hotel) take road to right, in 10 minutes reach shrine, (where two roads branch), take left hand road, and continue direct, till path terminates in Arco Naturale.

Grotto Mitromania. Pass shrine as above, and in 5-minutes reach flight of steps on left, immediately opposite small Cafè. Descending these 180 steps, we reach the Grotto Mitromania, formerly a Temple of Mithras. The Temple

faces East, its form is oval and it measures 90 feet in length, by 19 in width. The walls are faced with well cut reticulated work. A semicircular dais runs round the Grotto, and a few feet further back is another dais, in the middle are steps, which lead into an interior apartment. In the middle of the floor is seen a cistern, for the blood of the sacrificial victims.

Grotto Castiglione. Time occupied 1 hour, there and back.

This Grotto is of immense size, and should not be missed. Leave Piazza by the Church steps, after passing Villa Alba, take turning to right through gate with notice. Small gratuity expected. In five minutes take path on right, that leads direct over the cliff; 5 minutes pass through iron gate, and following path which is very steep, but protected by a wall and wire rope, we reach the Grotto in 15 minutes (from 1st gate). The Grotto is of great height, the roof is studded with stalactites. Against the back part of the cave can be seen a wall of reticulated work, also a cistern and guard-house of later date.

Barbarossa. (1600 feet). Time occupied 1 1/2 hours, there and back.

Follow Anacapri road, soon after passing Café Bitter turn down lane on left, between walls, passing Villa Massimino. On striking paved path at right angles, turn to left, and close to Villa Giulia, find track up steps to right. Thence always bearing to the left, reach summit in 15 minutes.

Fern Grotto. Time occupied, 1 1/4 hours there and back.

Take the first turn to the right, out of the new road to the Piccola Marina, ascend hill, in 5 minutes pass on left large white house, keep round house to left (avoiding turnings to right) down hill under low broken arch. After passing arch, bear to right up hill. In 15 minutes from main road, find on right huge rock with white paint mark; 100 yards further, on the right will be seen eight steps,

and track which leads direct to Fern Grotto. Bones, pottery etc. have been found here, indicating cave-dwellers. A profusion of maiden-hair fern can also be gathered.

Porecello. Time from Piazza 1 1/2 hours, there and back.

This is a very pretty and easy walk. Follow the Marina road as far as the Hotel Schweizerhof, opposite Hotel take steps straight up the hill, (avoiding turning to the right, which leads to Bagni di Tiberio), in 5 minutes reach large white house on right, with shrine in wall, here turn sharp to right, down narrow lane through vineyards, always bearing to left. On emerging into broken uncultivated ground, keep straight on facing Ischia. In 15 minutes pass sunken lime-kiln on right. In less than 5 minutes, reach chesnut grove, which in spring and autumn is carpeted with narcissus and cyclamen.

Round San Michele. Time occupied, 1 hour.

Leave Piazza by passing under the arch, (between a shoemaker's and a baker's shop), on the opposite side of Piazza from the steps, continue straight on for 10 minutes, to the junction of four roads, turn sharp to left up the hill past Church. After passing Church, turn sharp to left, (passing the Villa La Croce,) follow lane 5 minutes, then turn sharp to left, ascending two steps (passing Villa Cesina, green gate), keep on up narrow lane, after 3 minutes ending in steps. In 10 minutes main path abruptly ends, just before it ends, find track on left ascending hill. Following this track, in 10 minutes you will reach top of hill, and obtain view of town and Piazza. Follow down good path, ending in a sharp turn to right, and steps; this brings you into road from which you started.

Grotto Arsenale. Time occupied, 1 1/2 hours.

This is a rough walk, and the Grotto is best reached by sea. Leave Piazza by Strada Nuova, take steps leading to Piccola Marina. Two thirds of the way down, (group of

houses and ruined lime-kiln on left), where steps cross road' turn to left; keep close behind lime-kiln (square tower) facing towards Faraglioni. Path skirts wall and garden gate; opposite garden gate, on left find sign, « Grotte, » on rock in red paint. Follow path 15 minutes , find huge rock, with stairway cut in rock and iron hand-rail , (« Grotte » painted on rock,) mount steps; in 10 minutes by steep path, and finally over the rocks by sea, we reach Grotto Arsenale. Remains of Roman Arsenal, on the right is some ancient masonry , on the left and at the back two small rooms. Towards the top, and in the side, are holes to carry beams.

To Capo Fort. Time occupied, go and return; 2 hours.

Leave the Piazza by the Corso Tiberio , past the Hotel Royal, keep straight on, past the Church of la Croce. Soon after passing Villa Schiava , the road branches, (right leading to Villa Jovis); keep straight on. At last single cottage , turn up to right , then take the first ravine to the left, which leads down a very steep but beautiful path to the Fort, in 15 minutes from top.

Damicuta. Time occupied, 2 hours and 25 minutes.

Leave the Piazza at Anacapri, skirting the Convent wall, bear to the right past Villa Damicuta , in three minutes take turn to left. Keep straight on, following the broader path , which is very rough with sharp stones , and is in places, a mere water-course. In 35 minutes from Anacapri Piazza , we reach the Tower of Damicuta , on the edge of the cliff , which was built as a watch-tower against the Saracens. Close to the tower was probably the site of a Roman Palace , and remains of important ruins may still be traced.

Artists.

The atmosphere and electrical conditions of Capri, seem to foster in a wonderful degree the love and growth of Art. Indeed we have been informed, (though we do not wish tho risk our reputation for veracity on this statement) that a few months sojourn in Capri, will completely metamorphose the amateur, into the professional painter. The same sort of thing once happened to a tame seagull, which being kept in confinement and always fed on grain eventually developed a craw.

But who can resist the inspiring effects of light and color that dominate our island, the rosy hues at sun-rise, which bathe mountain top and crag, the sunset glow of blood-red, or heliotrope which turns with magic touch, the humblest cot into an object lesson of celestial, unpaintable color. Even I, the mere quill-driver, and narrator of the virtues of Hotels and shops, often long to burst forth into vast expenditure of canvas, and color-tubes, and demonstrate to an unsympathetic world, my impotent adoration of the Color-God.

On the road which leads to Castiglione, one finds the Studio of **Mr. Carlo di Giuseppe**. We visited him to find out what information he would give us for our Guide. He said that he had nothing to say, except, that he was profoundly in love with his art; to which he had dedicated his whole life. He further stated that, he did not wish any advertisement, because those who visited his Studio were interested in Art for it's own sake, and did not require the adventitious aids of the advertiser's art. Within the next year, **Mr. di Giuseppe** will take possession of a Villa and Studio, which are in course of construction, on the Via Tiberio near the Hotel Royal.

On the Strada Nuova, on the left, just before entering the Piazza we find the **Villa Schreiber** which will attract attention by its floral display and embracing orange grove. This inviting prospect marks the Art Gallery of **Mr. Schreiber**, which is one of the largest in Capri and is a wonder of artistic skill. From 9 a. m. till noon visitors are received with the greatest kindness and hospitality. The walls of the Gallery are adorned with numerous finely painted Capri views and characteristic studies of the picturesque natives. **Mr. Schreiber** having lived much in the East, has gathered together a most comprehensive collection of Egyptian and Moorish pictures.

Sculptor.

Signor **Italo Campagnoli**, whose Studio is opposite Hotel Quisisana is the only sculptor in Capri. He has exhibited at the International Exhibitions of Budapest and Munich and has been invited to exhibit his work at Hamburg. He executes portrait-busts from life in bronze, marble and terra-cotta. His original models are full of force and delicacy. Signor **Campagnoli** also gives lessons in modelling.

Museo d' Arte.

This is the only **Art Exhibition** in Capri, and will be easily found on the Via Tragara, opposite the gardens of the Quisisana Hotel. The Museum is open free to the public every day, (from November to May) from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. In the beautifully lighted, and artistically arranged central Saloon, will be found a collection of paintings in oils, and watercolors by various artists of rare excellence. Some fine

artistic bronzes are worthy of attention. The working-studio of the proprietor **Mr. A. Cerio** adjoins the Saloon. During the last season, the Museum was visited by numerous foreigners, and many discriminating purchases were made. Visitors coming to Capri only for the day, and whose time is precious, can drive direct to the door, which is only two minutes from the Piazza.

Natural History Collection.

Numbers of people come to Capri and leave it, without knowing that there is a most interesting Collection of Natural History in the house of **Dr. Cerio** (close to the Piazza). The Doctor is an enthusiast, and also an expert; and his collection of shells, minerals and fossils, and marbles found in the Roman Palaces on the island, is of real interest. Admission is free.

English Circulating Library.

At the Palazzo Cerio, up some steps just past the Church, is a Circulating Library. During the season, it is open every day from 10 a. m. till 12. There are about 1200 volumes to choose from, and the subscription is one Lire a week 2 lire a month or 20 Lire a year.

Postal Arrangements.

Arrival of Mails. 1. p. m.

6.20 p. m. (from Oct. 1st. to June 1st.)

8.15 p.m. (from June 1st. to Oct. 1st.)

Departure of Mails 1.45 p. m.

8 p.m.

C. p. m. Letters of 15 grammes (1/2 oz.) Italy. 20c

places in Postal Union. 25c

places in Postal Union 10^o

“ “ places in Postar Union Italy 2c

Places in Postal Union 53

Post office Orders (for sums not exceeding Lst. 10) 25c for
each letter

Registration fee 25c

Postage 45 shillings (11 lbs.) to England £ire 2.75

Parcel-post 5 kilos (11 lbs.) to England. £1.10

Telegrams to any part of Italy, 1 Lire for 15 words.

Telegrams to England, 26 centimes per word, in addition to a charge of 1 Lire on each telegram.

PART II.

CAPRI FOR A PERMANENT RESIDENCE.

Climate.

In considering the climate, which is of course the principal attraction in Capri, it must specially be noted that the strong point about Capri is, that the climate **all the year round** is superior to that of almost any other spot in Europe. There are other places that have finer and drier **winters** (for instance Egypt), and of course numerous places have cooler summers. The spring and autumn in Capri however, **cannot be surpassed anywhere**. It is then as a **residence for the whole year**, from January 1st to December 31st, that Capri is so highly to be recommended.

	Winter.	Spring.	Summer.	Autumn.
Mean Temperature.	48°	56°	72°	62°
Mean Maximum.	57°	67°	80°	71°
Mean Minimum.	41°	46°	62°	55°

Mean monthly Temperature.

Months.	Mean Monthly	Mean Maximum	Mean Minimum
January	48°	57°	41°
February	48°	58°	40°
March	51°	61°	43°
April	56°	66°	46°
May	61°	72°	53°
June	68°	77°	59°
July	72°	81°	63°
August	74°	84°	66°
September	69°	78°	60°
October	64°	73°	56°
November	57°	66°	51°
December	50°	57°	43°

VARIATIONS OF TEMPERATURE NOT VIOLENT.

The change of temperature which follows the setting of the sun, and which is so injurious to those of a consumptive or delicate temperament, is much less than at Nice, Mentone, Cannes or Pau. At the various health resorts of the Riviera, the Doctors insist on their patients not going out of doors till 10 a. m., and returning not later than 3 p. m. At Capri, on the other hand, it is perfectly safe to go out at 8 a. m., and remain in the open air till sunset. The extent of extreme monthly variation, calculated from the data of the whole year is at Capri about 57°; whilst calculated for the months of December, January, and

February it is 59°. At Nice the variation for these three months is about 60°, at Cannes 59°, at Monaco 62°, and at Pau 67°.

Rain.

The rain generally begins about the middle of September. The wettest part of the year is from October to January. Hardly any rain falls from June to September. Very rarely does snow fall, and only in winters of exceptional severity. In the last ten years no hail has fallen in sufficient quantity to damage the crops.

The mean annual rainfall from 1887 to 1892 is as follows:

Winter	Spring	Summer	Autumn
321 mm.	157.6 mm.	31.6 mm.	268.4 mm.

Winds.

During the winter the prevalent winds are from the North and East. In the summer the winds are usually from the W. and N. W. (Maestrale) the latter begins to blow about 11 a. m. and blows with moderate force till 4 or 5 in the evening, most pleasantly refreshing the air. The strongest winds are from February to April. It should however be borne in mind, that hurricanes and tornados are so rare, as not to be a source of serious consideration. In choosing a house or hotel at Capri, almost the entire **enjoyment of the summer** depends, on selecting a situation **facing North**, and exposed to all the breezes that blow. The importance for invalids, in the winter and spring, of securing a house **facing south**, cannot be too strongly or too often insisted on.

House can be rented Cheap.

The rents for furnished houses, vary from 100 to 150 Lire a month. Houses some distance from the town of Capri, or in Anacapri, are somewhat cheaper, and have the advantage of possessing a garden. The rents of houses in summer are cheaper, and there is also a much larger choice. Nearly all the villas are let furnished, which includes the use of plate, linen and glass; as a rule the villas are very scantily furnished, and the linen and china is cheap and common; it is therefore desirable to bring these requisites from England. One or two suites of rooms may be rented in Santa Teresa, formerly a convent. As a rule the only houses to be had are small villas (5 or 6 rooms), complete in themselves, all having pretty terraces and surrounded by either a garden or vineyard.

Servants.

Upon the excellence of Capri servants a good deal of difference of opinion exists; the supply of **trained** servants is limited; and the really good cooks can be counted on the fingers of one hand. On the other hand, all Italians have a natural taste for cooking, and specially excel in preparing vegetables in a variety of ways. The servants are extremely kindly and anxious to please; most of them cannot read or write. They are impulsive, superstitious, jealous, and quick-tempered; but do not bear malice, and soon forgive and forget. They are **not** over honest, and consider it their right, to make a commission on every Lira they spend for you. They generally work in pairs,

one doing the cooking, and the other the house-work. The wages of a cook run from 25-30 Lire a month, and of the housemaid from 15-20 Lire a month. It would never answer to bring English servants, except perhaps a nurse, to Capri. Their food, as they live entirely on vegetables, macaroni, and bread is a very small item, and costs about 1/2 Lira a day for each servant.

Anyone wanting a good man-cook, who has had Hotel experience, and can turn out a really elaborate meal, should communicate with **Eduardo Astarita**, who can always be found at the Hotel de France, Via Tiberio.

Provisions.

Speaking generally, meat, butter, milk, and eggs are slightly cheaper than in England. Fruit, vegetables, wine, and oil are very cheap; fish in the summer is abundant, cheap, and of great variety. All imported articles, such as tea, coffee, sugar, English groceries, and canned goods are very expensive which is owing to the excessive Custom Duties. Charcoal is used exclusively for cooking, and costs from 10 to 12 Lire a month, according to the size of the family and the care of the servants. The price of beef is fixed by the Municipality at L. 2.10 per Kilo. Those however who want the choice cuts, will have to pay L. 2.50 per Kilo. The following prices are given in English money, for the sake of convenient comparison.

Beef	10 ^d	per	lb.
Mutton	7 ^d	»	»
Chickens	7 ^d	»	»
Tea	3 ^s 6 ^d - 4 ^s	»	»
Coffee	1 ^s 2 ^d	»	»
Sugar	7 ^d	»	»
Eggs	1 ^s 6 ^d - 2 ^s	per dozen	

In Naples there are excellent shops of every sort. Several comisionaires go to Naples two or three times a week, and will carefully execute orders for anything that the Capri shops do not supply. **Michele Cerrotto** has been a comissionaire for twenty years. He is honest to the core of his heart, and knowing the shops of Naples thoroughly, will execute commissions reasonably and intelligently. He is largely employed by the foreigners residing in Capri. He changes money at the current rates of the day in Naples.

Clothing if of Italian manufacture, is not expensive in Naples ; but is of inferior quality to English goods. Those who insist on English material, can inspect an excellent and varied stock at the large drapery establishments of M. Gutteridge & C.^o Every sort of English luxury, and the best brands of English groceries, can be obtained from Messrs. Smith & C.^o (see Adv. p. m.) and from W. Codrington (see Adv. p. m.).

Smokers will be glad to know that the « Capstan » brand of tobacco, manufactured by Wills of Bristol can be obtained in Naples ; the price for a tin containing 3 1/3 oz. is 3 Lire.

The life in Capri is so simple and unconventional, that if people are sensible, they next spend very little on their outward adornment. Men wear light tweed or serge in the winter and early spring, and light flanel, duck, or drill in the summer, and ladies the same. Taxes, there are none, to those who do not own real estate, except the dog tax of 5 Lire a year for each dog.

On calculating the cost of living in Capri it is very essential to remember, that for every pound sterling (L. 1) you will get from 26 to 27 Lire (sometimes, but not often more), so that the Lira in Italy is really equal to 9d., and not to 10d., as it is usually reckoned.

Table of Weights and Measures.

Measure of Weights (unit Gramme).

Gramme = . . . 15 Grains

Kilogramme = . 1000 Grammes = 21bs. 3 1/4oz
Avoirdupois.

Measure of Capacity (unit Litre)

Litre = . . . 1 3/4 pints

Measure of Length (unit Metre)

Metre = . . . 39 inches

Kilometre = . . 1093 yards.

Note. Locally, though not legally, solids are sold by the rotolo and liquids by the Carafa.

Rotolo = . . . 900 grammes.

Carafa = . . . 1 1/2 pints.

Simple luxuries that cost little and are easily obtainable.

A profusion of fruit and flowers, the cost of which is almost nominal, may always be found on the Capri dinner-table. For four months in the year the most delicious figs (green and purple) can be bought for 1/2d a lb.; grapes in profusion, and in the greatest perfection; large and most luscious peaches from Naples, oranges from Sorrento, lemons from Sicily, and the delicate wild strawberries from the mountains near Sorrento. There are only two or three months in the year when the house cannot be gay with

flowers: roses (nearly all the year), the stately lily (white, yellow, and red), the wild narcissus, anemone, cyclamen, and violets so sweet and delicate, in great plenty. Great clusters of broom and nuptial myrtle may, in their season, turn the barest room into a bower of loveliness. The sea, too, in its prodigality provides us with the tasty anchovy; which, if we are wise in our generation, we preserve with fresh sweet oil, vinegar of the white grape, and the fragrant leaf of the bay, and store for winter need in deep jars of cool red pottery.

Teachers of Languages.

Herr Weber, a German, gives lessons in German, French, English and Italian. He attends pupils at their own houses. For further particulars address him, — Piccola Marina.

Sig. Gamboni, an Italian, who is the Principal of the Government schools in Capri, gives lessons in Italian, French, and English. For further information apply — Hiddigeigei Restaurant.

Teacher of Music.

The Music Master **Umberto De Martino**, gives lessons on the guitar, mandoline, violin, pianoforte, and wind instruments. He is a brilliant performer, and understands perfectly the theory, and technique of music. He speaks some English and French. No one in Capri, can be more highly recommended either for beginners, or advanced pupils.

Wine.

Capri Wine has a world-wide reputation, and a manufactured article bearing a gorgeous label, with a Tarantella

dancer, a very blue Blue Grotto, or the autograph of Tiberius, can be obtained anywhere from Delmonico's, to the humbler Italian restaurants in and around Oxford Street. It may safely be said however, that the pure wine can rarely be tasted except in Capri, and that only after a conscientious search, with a clean discriminating palate. The perfection of white Capri wine, which is far superior to the red, should be in appearance straw-coloured and clear as crystal; in taste it should be dry and nutty, without acidity or acrid aftertaste, and something between Sauterne and Hock. The great difficulty in obtaining a reliable Capri wine, is that each small grower makes his own wine, some of course very carelessly, in regard to the selection of only the perfect grapes, and the discarding of all stalks and extraneous matter. Capri wine, like Capri beauty, does not improve by keeping, beyond a certain point. « There are millions » in the following suggestion; let some enterprising individual, establish a « Winery » on the Californian plan, pledging the growers to sell him all their grapes for a term of years, at a price to be agreed upon; having obtained a virtual monopoly of the wine trade of Capri, a sound reliable article can then be produced, in sufficient quantities to command a market, and the reputation and commercial value of the Capri wines, would rapidly increase.

Amusements: Bathing; Boating; Lawn tennis.

The bathing is the finest in the world. The water is as clear as crystal and extraordinarily buoyant, and therefore very easy to swim in. The Mediterranean being tideless, it is never necessary to consider whether the tide is suitable at the hour we want to bathe.

The natives never bathe before St. Costanza's day (May 14th), but English people can begin earlier than that, and keep it up till the middle of October. During about six months in the year, boating can be indulged in every day, without fear of bad weather. Large open sailing boats can be hired cheaply by the month, and the wages of a sailor to navigate the boat would be about 30 Lire a month. No more ideal cruising ground can be imagined than the Bay of Naples ; or , southwards , towards Amalfi , and Salerno ; or , still further south , along the coast of Calabria and Sicily. There is no protection or safe anchorage of any sort at Capri ; so that it is impossible, except in the summer, to keep a yacht which cannot be hauled up on the beach, in bad weather.

There is a Lawn Tennis Club next to the Hotel Faraglioni, which, though not exactly up to the style of Wimbledon, helps to pass many an idle hour. Visitors can join the Club by the week or month by applying to the Honorary Secretary.

The amateur photographer has a really good time at Capri ; besides the inexhaustible number of landscapes and seascapes numberless genre studies may always be picked up, among the fishermen at the Marina, mending their nets, or tending their boats, or among the picturesque Capri girls , swinging up and down the narrow lanes , or steep stairways , with flagons of wine , baskets of oranges and lemons , or piles of stone or mortar poised on their heads. Negatives can be developed, and all photographic supplies obtained, at the shop of Morgano, and the Anglo-Saxon Coy who will also lend their dark rooms to visitors.

Municipal Tariff for Boats.

Transfer from steamer to landing or viceversa	20¢
Children from 5-12 years old	10¢
Hand baggage	free
For every 50 Kilos of baggage, or fraction thereof	20¢
Baggage over 100 Kilos—for every 100 Kilos or fraction thereof	80¢

Blue Grotto.

Every passenger conveyed from steamer to Grotto and back	Lire 1.25
Every passenger conveyed from landing to Grotto and back	« 2.25
Two passengers ditto ditto	« 3.75
Three passengers ditto ditto	« 4.25
Four or more—each passenger	« 1.50

The above prices include the use of the small boat for entering the Grotto. The visitor has the right to remain in the Grotto 15 minutes, after that time he must pay 30¢, for every additional 15 minutes.

Shops.

Though the shops of Capri are neither very imposing, nor very large, almost anything, from Crosse and Blackwell's pickles, to Winsor and Newton's artists' colours, may be bought at **Morgano's**, at very moderate prices; and the visitor to this « Whiteley » of Capri may be always

sure of most polite consideration. Here too may be seen, a very varied choice of the many-hued Italian silks, and Sorrento wood. At **Morgano's** other shop, across the way, a dark room is provided for the use of visitors, and photographic supplies of all sorts can be bought. At this second, and also most interesting shop of **Morgano's**, should be examined, the excellent and full selection of Capri views and sketches, painted by resident Capri artists.

At the Café of the Faraglione, opposite Hotel Quisisana, owned by **Arcangelo Trama** and Sons, the visitor can find whatever appeals to the inner, or outer man. **Trama** keeps every sort of wine, mineral water, groceries, beer, and an excellent quality of tea. The walls are hung with pictures by well known Italian artists. A great choice of artistic articles may be seen, olive wood, Sorrento wood, mosaic, and silks, Neapolitan china, and bronze copies of the best known statues in Naples. All sorts of artists supplies and stationery, can be bought at the shop of **Michele Trama**, under the church, and carpenter's and cabinet maker's work may be safely entrusted to him. The establishment of **Arcangelo Trama** is patronised by the Duke of Mecklenburg, Mr. Krupp of Essen and the Club Internazionale of Capri. German money, and gold can be changed here to good advantage.

The Anglo-Saxon Coy's Establishment, will be found opposite the Hotel Quisisana, and successfully provides for the most exacting demands of all nations, and of both sexes. For a detailed account of its resources see Adv p....

A capital suit of clothes can be made by **Giuseppe Trama**, whose shop is in the Corso Tiberio. The charge for making an entire suit is about 25 Lire. **Trama** keeps an excellent selection of English tweeds and flannels. As a ladies' tailor, he is much to be recommended, and is honest in his prices. A rough frieze-like flannel,

which is made at the monastery of Deserto near Sorrento, makes a stylish suit, which will never wear out.

Ladies who prefer a dress-maker to a man-tailor, will find a clever and stylish « artiste » in **Maria Fuclta**. Villa Giardini. She is painstaking, and quick to carry out her customers ideas, and can accurately copy a model if required.

Where the walking is so rough, as it is at Capri, it is most important to be well shod. The boots should be light, with soles not too heavy, and no nails. Most excellent boots are made on the island, and the prices are moderate.

Giuseppe Canfora whose shop is in Via Tiberio under the Pretura, can be relied upon to turn out a good pair of boots, just suited to the rugged Capri lanes. If Madame wants a pair of dancing shoes, **Canfora** will amply supply the demand. He also supplies the special Capri shoe, with soles of twisted rope, which will often save the walker from a sprained ankle.

The shoe shop of **Antonio Trama**, will be found on the Strada Nuova, near the junction of the Marina and Anacapri roads. **Trama** uses the best leather, and makes a shoe which is pleasing to the eye, and at the same time comfortable. He supplies the American last, and as he can turn out a really pretty shoe, and his workmanship is neat, he is much patronised by the young ladies.

A Good Builder.

Luigi Desiderio, is a master builder much to be recommended. He is honest and moderate in his charges, and (a matter of great importance) his work will stand the test of time. He is the Contractor for work, executed by the Municipality of Capri. Proof of his excellent building may be seen, at the Villa Hamilton, Villa Certosella, Palazzo Orrico and the recent addition to the Villa Discopoli.

Churches of Capri.

The first Bishop of Capri was consecrated in A. D. 994 by the Archbishop Leo of Amalfi, to which republic Capri at that time belonged. The Bishopric of Capri was suppressed in 1818, and absorbed into the diocese of Sorrento, to which it has belonged ever since.

The present Church of St. Stephen, in the Piazza, was long the Cathedral of the island. The present edifice dates from 1693. Its chief attractions are two superb pavements, one of which (before the high altar) was brought from the Villa Jovis in 1759, and the other (in the north-east chapel) was found in 1888, in the palace of Augustus at Tragara.

The church of St. Costanzo, near the Grande Marina, has the basilica form, and is said to be the earliest Christian edifice in South Italy. Some years ago, while the Church was being restored, old Byzantine frescoes were discovered on the walls. It was formerly adorned by some magnificent marble columns of « giallo antico ».

No visitor to the island, should miss seeing the Church of St. Michael at Anacapri, adjoining what was formerly, the Convent of Santa Teresa. The door is usually kept locked, but the key can be obtained from the Parocco. The Church is circular in form. A most interesting majolica pavement, representing Adam and Eve, surrounded by the conventional animals of the garden of Eden, is extremely quaint, and is in perfect preservation; it was executed in 1761 by Leonard Chiaiese. The high altar is rich with particoloured marbles, and flanked by two graceful angels also of marble. In the centre of the high altar is an enormous piece of antique lapis-lazuli, said to be the largest in Europe.

Festas.

The Festas are a most important feature in the daily round of Capri life. In the summer they are very frequent, and supply the Capriots with amusement, excitement, and a chance of wearing their good clothes. The most important Festas are those of St. Costanzo, the patron saint of Capri (May 14), Corpus Domini, St. Antonio (June 13), at Anacapri, and a most interesting Festa in honour of the Virgin, at midnight on the top of Tiberio (September 7 and 8.).

At the Festival of St. Costanzo, a figure of the Saint is carried through the streets, and to the Grande Marina. This effigy is heavily covered with silver, and, was fashioned in 1715. It represents the Saint life-size, as far as the waist. The Saint is vested in pontifical robes, holding in his left hand a staff, and book with two metallic « bambini », vowed as a thank offering by Capri women, and with his right hand bestowing the episcopal benediction. The gems which are now seen in the mitre, and pectoral cross of the Saint, were excavated at the Villa Jovis.

It is a sight not easily to be forgotten, to see a procession, headed by a choir of white-robed and blue-veiled maidens, from four years old to twenty, the ground strewn with the pink leaves of the rose or the yellow petals of the broom, winding its way through the narrow streets or vine-embo-wered lanes of the little town.

A very interesting and most ancient custom, is retained in Capri, and in hardly any other place in Italy. This curious sight is to be seen on Easter Eve, when, at a certain part of the service in the principal church, hundreds of small birds are let loose by young boys and girls.

English Catholics, and others, will be interested to hear that there resides in Capri a young and very distinguished

Priest, **Don Alessandro Ferraro** who is a Canon, and also Doctor of Divinity and Ecclesiastical Law. He speaks English with ease, and though not given to proselytising, is always ready and willing to instruct and assist, those who desire earthly or spiritual advice.

Carriages: — Good and Cheap.

Although Capri cannot be thoroughly seen without walking, yet for those who are not fond of walking, or are not strong enough to walk, it may be of interest to know, that any number of small carriages are for hire. They are little open carriages with a hood, and room for two persons comfortably and a third at a pinch. The horses are sturdy little ponies bred in Turkey, and their drivers rattle them up and down hill at a great pace.

By those who do not mind the indignity of bestriding a donkey, plenty of these irritating beasts can be hired.

Municipal Tariff for Carriages.

<u>Small carriages, 1 or 2 horses</u>	<u>Large carriage, 2 horses</u>
	Lire
Marina to Piazza	1.00
Piazza to Marina	1.00
Piazza to Marina and return	1.70
Marina to Piazza and return	1.70
Marina to Anacapri.	2.00
» » » and return	3.00
Capri to Anacapri	1.25
» » » and return	2.00
From landing to Marina Hotels	0.50
	1.00

Baggage. 30¢ for every package under 30 Kilos in weight. over 30 Kilos 50¢.

Natural History.

Animals. The absence of wood and water, and the comparatively small portion of the island, which is incultivated, accounts for there being « no wild animals » in Capri. For, the rat, the mouse and the bat, are hardly worthy to come under this formidable description. A few years ago there were numbers of wild rabbits in the « macchie ». (undergrowth) but the healthy appetites of the islanders have exterminated them.

Birds. Very few birds breed on the island, the principal being the falcon, chaffinch and linnet. But it must not be inferred from this remark, that many rare birds may not be found at the proper season. From the end of March to the middle of May, hundreds of species of migratory birds may be met with, taking their « siesta » after their voyage from the South, before committing themselves to the irresponsive North-land.

A brisk trade is done in the capture of quails; huge nets are set up on the heights, and more exposed cliffs of the island, and a decoy-bird is usually used, to lure the unfortunate « forestieri » quail to their fate. These nets are erected in the months of April and May, to intercept the birds on their flight North, and in September and October, to impede their passage South. About 30,000 quail are captured annually. During these months a fair bag of quail may be made with the gun, (in the early morning) among those that escape the nets, and in the winter and early spring, when the North wind blows, a few wood-cock may be killed especially at Anacapri. A gun-licence, which costs Lire 13 is indispensable.

Reptiles. — The timid and apprehensive tourist, who is always on the outlook for unknown terrors in a strange

land, will kindly note that there are no **poisonous snakes**, in Capri. There is only one species « **Coluber atrovirens** », or to more intimate friends the black snake, which is not only harmless, but a positively useful member of society, for he eats mice in large quantities, and for this gastronomic taste of his, we should all be thankful. There are two sorts of lizards, the house lizard and the « al fresco » lizard, they are both quite harmless, and indeed affable, and they both like music. The house-lizard is not of a prepossessing appearance, and has a pale anaemic look; the out-door lizard is green, graceful and gay.

On the Faraglioni rocks, there is a very rare variety of the common « *Lacerta muralis* », which is of a dark, almost black color on the back, and of the most brilliant azure blue on the belly, a reflex of the bright hues of the sea, which surround its almost inaccessible home.

Fish. — A considerable number of the natives of Capri are fishermen, and (though most of the fish is taken to the Naples market) in summer, it is not an expensive article. The best fish are sardines, anchovies, lobster, spanish mackerel, and the delicious redmullet, the wood-cock of the sea. On moonless summer nights, and especially in August and Semptember, the stranger will be struck by the sight of hundreds of twinkling lights, moving to and fro like glorified glow-worms, on the South side of the island; to the American mind they may suggest the ever increasing stars on their country's banner. These are fishing boats, illuminated with knots of fat resinous pine, which they carry at the bow, to attract **totani**, a kind of cuttle-fish. The boats work five or six miles from land; a line of 80-100 yards in length is used, and frequently many hundred pounds of fish are taken in a night.

Insect. — A variety of rare and beautiful butterflies, are to be seen on the cliffs, and the entomologist will do well

to bring his net and collecting box, being careful that in his eager chase for some rare specimen, he does not precipitate himself over the cliffs.

Molluscs. — On this favored island there are 30 varieties of land shells among the rarest of which is a specie of « Testacella » and the « Helix elata » which is found in Capri and Sicily, but not on the adjoining part of the mainland. The marine species are more or less the same that are found in the bay of Naples. Personally, I am not acquainted with these specimens, and should not know them if I met them. For all these facts on natural history I am indebted to Dr. Cerio and I hope that any naturalist who fails to meet « Helix elata » or any of his fellows, will complain to the Doctor and not to me.

Flora.

To show the wealth of the Flora of Capri, Professor Pasquale has compared the number found in the Vesuvian region with the number found in Capri, The former with an area of 120 square kilometres presents :

934 species
326 varieties

Capri with an area of only 10 square kilometres presents :

799 species
129 varieties

There is a considerable difference between the products of the maritime and the mountain district, due, not to the difference of soil, but to exposure.

In spring and autumn the sides of the mountains are bright with flowers; the cistus, crocus, narcissus of exquisite perfume, the delicate blossom of the myrtle, the gentium, and campanula each, in its season, peeps out from amongst the most arid and forbidding looking rocks. The familiar sweet violet, cyclamen, and orchid can be found in profusion, and so can (in certain spots) the maidenhair fern, so poetically called by the Italians « Capelli di Venere » -- Venus' hair. Trees do not grow to any considerable size; the principal are the pine, the oak (robur and ilex), the poplar, and the willow.

Some Capri Houses.

Like a discreet beauty, (not in evening dress), Capri does not reveal all her charms, at the first glance to the roving eye of the chance passer-by. On the contrary it is only by vigilant investigation, that the many captivating retreats, Casas, Villas, Palazzos, Villinos may be found. Oftimes a modest, uncompromising door; built into some dilapidated wall, may if valiantly assailed with fist and stick, fly back and reveal to the ravished eye of the beholder a charming « Pergola », freighted with luscious grapes and fragrant with climbing roses, which leads to a house of no mean aspect. Perhaps a Roman « cortile » greets the eye, complete with many a damaged marble beauty, (bereft of arm or leg or nose), a fountain in the midst ceaselessly plashing, with soothing sound into a marble basin.

On the Tragara road, several villas in various styles of architecture, arrest the eye; on the right below the path, the cupola and serrated top of an Algerian Villa cuts the sky. On the left is seen, another imposing Villa, the abode of a well known German capitalist, whose perfectly kept gardens, are a delight to every beholder.

Further on in the direction of Tragara, we pass the Villa Certosella with a luxuriant, cool and shady garden. Here the ancient « camerelle », (arched chambers of Roman work, supporting a roadway), have been transformed into natural grottos of verdure.

A score of yards further on, is seen on the left, approached by a lofty flight of steps, Villa Allers, whose fortunate owner is known all over Europe, as the most versatile delineator of the strongly marked features of Germany's great Chancellor.

Strolling in another direction towards Castiglione, just before reaching Santa Teresa, is to be seen Villa Narcissus, owned by a distinguished American painter. If perchance the door stands open, a tempting peep is afforded of a marble Pompeian Court, from which springs a generous red-flowered oleander; the walls are studded with many a Greek and Roman head, and quaint inscription. Inside, treasures without number will reveal themselves to the privileged visitor.

At Palazzo a Mare, to the West of the Grande Marina, stands a beautiful Villa, half moated Castle, half modern chateau, now owned by that well known French artist Mr. G. Dubufe, whose pictures are so often seen, on the walls of the Paris Salon. It occupied, what was once the site of a Temple of Isis, and in more recent times a French Fort.

High above the Anacapri road at Capodimonte where the old steps end, a conspicuous object is the unique Villa of Dr. Axel Munthe. With its graceful curve of white pillars, and its Egyptian sphinx, it seems to dominate the slopes below, and defy the attack of Saracen or uninvited guest. On this site formerly stood a Roman Villa, portions of which with the frescoes still brilliant, may be seen. Just below the house was an old French powder magazine.

The Doctor's Library, was formerly the Chapel of the Annunciation, one of the many Anacapri churches which have fallen into disuse.

Society.

Society in Capri is conspicuous for being democratic and cosmopolitan.

In the first edition of this « Gulde » the following lines appear « Society in Capri is above all things unconventional. Those who expect, or are dependent on balls, or dinner parties, must settle themselves elsewhere ». Since these words were penned, a mighty change has swept over the formerly unsophisticated island, an unforeseen importation of dress suits and French frocks, (made in Paris of course), has taken place, and the graceful limbs which formerly dispored themselves in flannels, or shirt waists, are now confined in the fetters of civilisation. The « Club Internazionale », which has recently sprung into being, as a terpsichorean « deus ex machina », not infrequently calls to its broad halls, and ample terraces, the young and the fair, and the swallow-tail may be seen whirling in friendly rivalry, with the tight buttoned tunics of our genial garrison. Despite however these signs of gradual change, from the innocuous crysilis stage, to a full fledged rivalry with the Riviera, the simple and unassuming tea-pot, still holds its own, and has perhaps more providers and votaries, than the flippant spasmodic champagne cork.

Naples : its Attractions and Shops.

There is no doubt, that one of the advantages of Capri is its proximity to Naples, a city of nearly 600,000 inhabi-

tints, which can be reached in two or three hours. The sights of Naples are numerous and most interesting; it's Museum and Aquarium (the finest in Europe), it's splendid « San Carlo » theatre (the second largest in Europe), and the never wearying vivacity of its street scenes. Naples is also the favorite starting-point for the trip to Pompeii and Vesuvius, and the lovely drive to Pozzuoli, Baiae, and Capo Miseno. The shops at Naples are excellent, and anything can be bought there, and any work done, which cannot be satisfactorily done in Capri. As in any other large town, when once you « know the ropes », you can live very reasonably in Naples. In summer, it is wiser to choose an hotel in the upper part of the town, but in the winter, the hotels near the sea are more convenient for sight-seeing, and also quite safe from a sanitary point of view.

At **Parker's Hotel** kept by an Englishman, and beautifully situated in the upper part of the town, the rate for a stay of not less than one week is 8-12 Lire a day. See Adv. p. m.

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Villa Alba	« « «	Capri	Rent
Villa Weber	Weber	Piccola Marina	Rent
Sali Mulo	Mariano	Capri	Rent
Villa Rosa	Vittorio Rosa	Via Castiglione	Sale or rent
Villa Giulia	Leopoldo Pollio	opposite Faraglione Hotel	Sale or rent

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